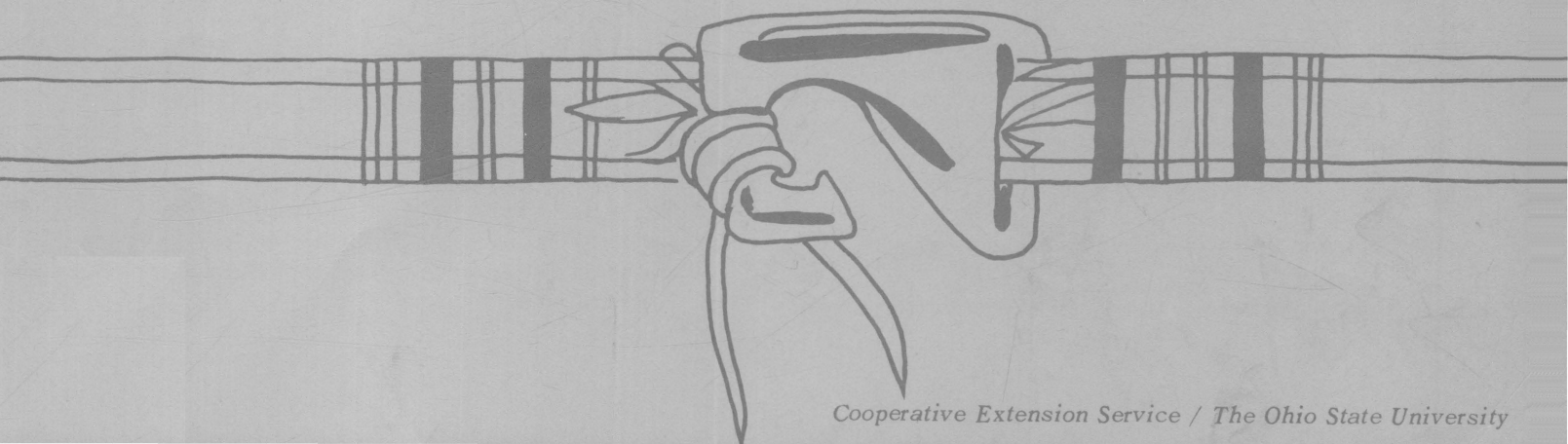
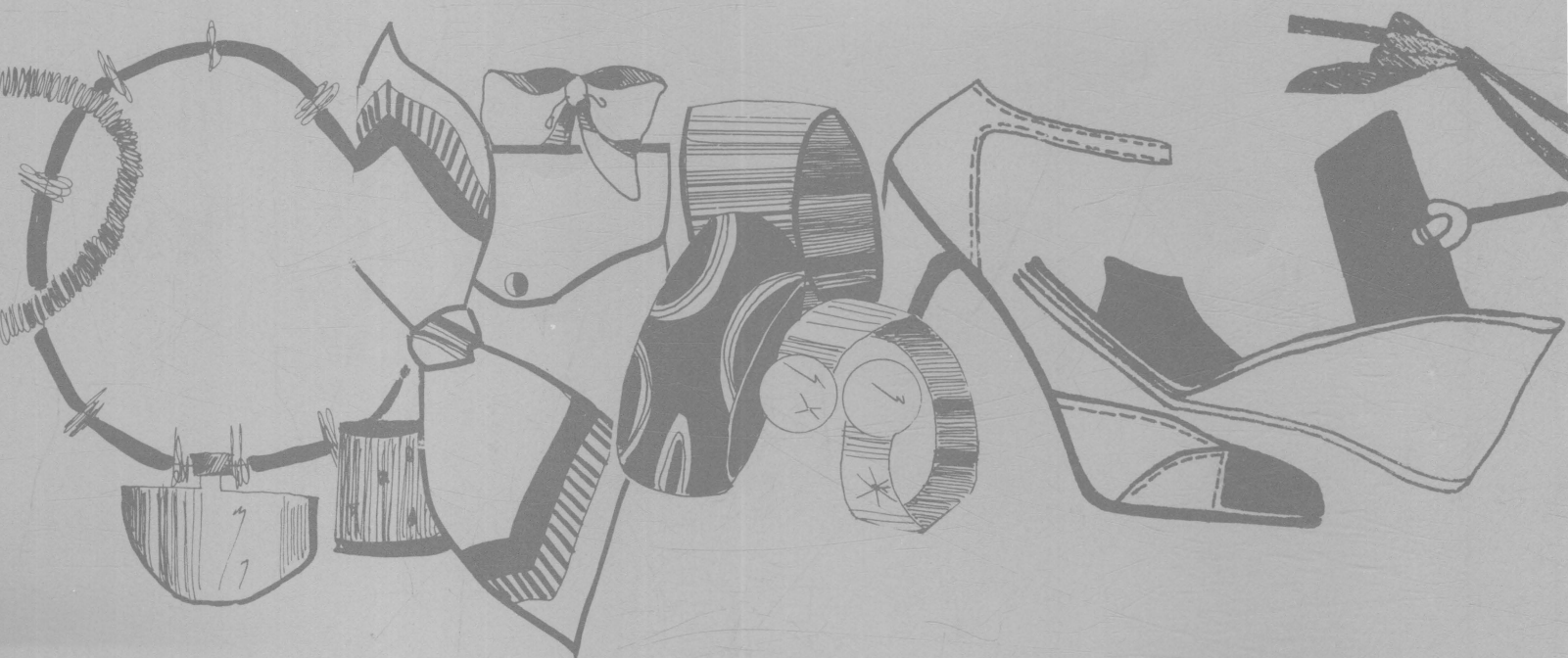


accessories for you





Accessories for You

Accessories . . .

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Accessories can give you that well-dressed look. They can make you look beautiful, or they can make you seem very ordinary.

Accessories may personalize your clothes, add variety to your wardrobe, and give point and distinction to a basic dress or suit. They can make a basic garment seem suitable for any occasion. They can add a touch of the latest fashion. They can extend your wardrobe. They can center others' attention on your good features, away from your poor ones. They can make an unbecoming garment more becoming. Not only can they create a pleasing effect for others to see, but also they can affect your mood. Does a bright scarf lift your spirit? Or does it make you self-conscious? Accessories can give you an opportunity to "be free to be me."

Accessories are important, since they can do so much to and for you. Plan and select them with careful consideration. Ask yourself these questions:

- What is my size and shape?
- What is the coloring of my hair, eyes and skin?
- What kind of accessories do I enjoy?
- For what occasions do I need clothes?
- How much money can I spend?
- What goes best with my present clothes and accessories?
- What do I want accessories to do for me and my clothes?



Patterned scarf at the left obviously is the point of emphasis. In the center, the same scarf competes with the patterned garment. The lesser amount of patterned garment at the right results in an attractive combination.

Accessories . . . For Your Total Look

Total look is the complete picture made by you and the clothes and accessories you are wearing at any one time and place. All parts of the picture need to be related—tell the same story—if they are to achieve a pleasing total look. This does not mean, though, that there is only one way to assemble an outfit. Today's fashion gives us the freedom to put together a look. Then we can pull that outfit apart and use some of it with other garments and/or accessories for another look.

Even though there are no strict rules, there are some guidelines that may help you to assemble outfits.

Let's consider **emphasis** first. Every outfit should have a center of interest. One part of the costume should be dominant—catch the eye first. Then other items should be subordinate to it. This may be either a garment or an accessory. If the garment has interesting detail, is of a fabric with noticeable pattern or bright color, or has an attractive trim, the accessories should be less striking in order to avoid competition. However, in today's fashion, pattern is successfully combined with pattern. Just be sure one is more subdued than the other—smaller in size of pattern or not as bright in color. Many unusual or outstanding accessories worn at one time are distracting. So are decorative pins on print dresses. People do not know where to look first.

Remember to wear not more than one outstanding item at a time. Strive for a simple effect—suave simplicity, not stark simplicity. If in doubt about wearing an extra accessory, you probably would be wiser not to wear it. Have confidence that the ones you are wearing are “right.” It is smarter to appear under-dressed rather than over-dressed.

Color is often uppermost in a person's mind when choosing accessories. Some women and girls make an effort to get all the accessories in the same color. This will create a spotty effect, particularly if the accessories contrast with the garment. It is more interesting if only one or two accessories are in the contrasting color and the others blend with or match the garment. A common and safe practice is to have either the shoes and purse or the gloves and hat in the contrasting color. It also could be hat and neck scarf or hat and beads and earrings. Either of the last two suggestions would concentrate the attention at the face, thus giving the point of emphasis in your costume.

Avoid wearing shoes and hat in the same contrasting color. Even though only two accessories, they are too far apart and a center of interest is not established. Of course, the shoes and hat may be of the same color if they match the dress. If the shoes and hat are of a harmonizing neutral color and gloves or purse are of the same color, then, the eye can easily travel from one to the other in a rhythmical manner rather than having to jump from top to bottom.

Just one accessory, such as a hat, which contrasts with the rest of the outfit can be very effective. This is possibly a little more unusual and dramatic than



The amount and placement of color affects the total appearance. The one color outfit to the left can be monotonous. The outfit in the center appears top heavy. The distribution of color in the outfit to the right gives a pleasing effect.

having two accessories in the contrasting color. A colorful, decorative bag might be the only contrasting item in a plain outfit of beige. Beads or a scarf also could be used.

Wearing one color also is correct. All accessories the same color as the dress can be quite dramatic. This can be attractive, particularly if a becoming color is chosen and the textures are varied and interesting. Then you—your face and hair—will be the point of emphasis. On the other hand, wearing all items in one color, can be drab and monotonous. Avoid choosing a conservative color for a one-color costume unless you have vivid coloring or a dynamic personality.

Rhythm is the quality that allows the eye to travel easily from one part of a costume to another. Decorative trims such as embroidery and ric rac often do this. So can buttons. A feather in a hat might contribute to this easy movement. The eye may be led from the less important to the most interesting or vice versa. The eye should not be forced to jump from spot to spot.

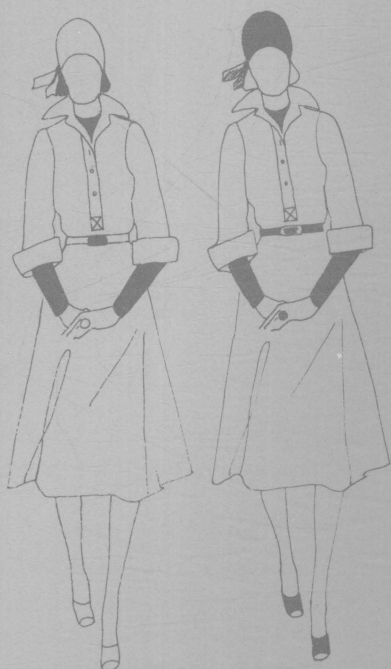
Balance must be maintained, too; that is, have equal attraction or “weight” on each side of the center. If both halves are exactly the same—as though a reflection—the outfit conveys a feeling of dignity. This is formal balance. Jewelry, flowers, and scarves are often used to give the subtle appearance of balance. The design of the garment affects the placement of the accessory. Balance needs to be achieved lengthwise as well as crosswise. For instance, a large or bright hat may make you seem top heavy. To achieve balance does not mean you must have a similar item in each half,

whether comparing the two sides or the top and bottom. A large plain area may balance a smaller decorative area.

Proportion deals with the relationship of the parts to the total area. Having the whole divided so the proportion is pleasing is important in using accessories. Avoid wearing an equal amount of different colors. Use a lot of one color, a little of a second, and still less of the third if you are combining three colors in an outfit. You might do this by wearing dress, shoes, and purse of one color, hat and gloves of the second one, and pin and earrings of the third. A printed scarf or tie containing two colors worn with a suit of another color is a subtle way of using three colors. Gloves or hat might match one of the colors in the scarf, or gloves, hat, shoes, and purse might all match the suit.

Achieving **unity** is the final goal in combining accessories. Line, shape, size, texture, and color should be in harmony. The texture of a soft cotton rather than a synthetic chiffon scarf gives unity to a rugged sports outfit of denim and canvas. Relating hosiery colors to those of the garments and other accessories gives unity. Gray tones blend with blue and black, and beige tones blend with warm colors such as orange, brown, and yellow.

There should be consistency and repetition in an outfit but not to the extent that the outfit becomes monotonous. Use a few curved lines when straight lines are dominant, and vice versa. Using more than one color value adds interest, too. Your personality, a particular style or fashion, or the spirit of an occasion may suggest the one theme you express. A sharp outfit might consist of a safari-look,



Accessories can make an outfit look too spotty. Unity results when all parts of the outfit contribute to the theme.

tan dress; animal motif, brown, orange and tan scarf; tan macramé, large bag; tan suede sandals; and brown wood bracelet or ring. The whole outfit should suggest one idea or purpose.

Do not make the mistake of combining sport accessories with dress-up clothes or vice versa. Conflict results when saddle oxfords are worn with an organza dress. A jeweled flower on a plaid suit would be revolutionary. You probably can think of many other times when clothes and accessories did not present a unified picture. Choosing and combining your clothes and accessories gives you an opportunity to express yourself. Doing this in an unusual and original way can give you much satisfaction.

Discord, even though consisting of conflicting elements, may be smart and fashionable. Some people enjoy the startling, unusual effects created by "breaking the rules." Skilled designers can successfully combine black with brown, orange with purple, or chiffon with rough tweed. If you try it, be sure you achieve a striking and beautiful effect and not an eccentric one.

The success of exotic combinations is influenced by the occasion for which the outfit is to be worn and by the personality of the wearer. Beach costumes of orange and purple are delightful, but business clothes in such a color combination are apt to be clownish. Texture is important when combining clashing colors. For instance, the depth and beautiful coloring of a brown fur is stunning with a black suit. If you want to wear a dissonant costume, be sure you have strong enough personality to "get away with it."

Accessories . . . For Your Personal Style

Do you have "likes" and "dislikes" when you think of the kinds of accessories available? Most people do. Preferences become a part of a person.

If you have a strong personality, you can wear brighter colors and bolder lines than a shy, retiring person. Extreme, unusual, and high fashion items easily can be worn by a dramatic person. Accessories might include striking colored hats, long gloves, high heeled shoes, large bags, and bulky jewelry.

A quiet, reserved person probably would be more at ease with accessories that have subdued colors and conservative lines. Then the accessories would serve as a background and not outshine the person. Simple pumps or trim oxfords, medium-sized bags, plain gloves, inconspicuous hats, pearls, and modest jewelry would complete the picture.

An athletic person would be apt to select medium-or low-heeled shoes, pigskin gloves, rough leather bags, tailored hats, and plain metal or wooden jewelry. A very feminine person might choose low-cut or cut-out shoes, small bags, short and cuffed gloves, and dainty jewelry with curved lines.

You may not want to be categorized as always giving the same impression with the clothes you wear. In fact, few people express only one personal style all the time. Choose the effect you want to create at a particular time, and dress accordingly.

Wear the accessories that give you self-confidence and make you feel at ease. Wear accessories that do something for you—that look as though they were meant for you. Clothing must be thought of as an extension of the self—yourself.

Dare to be different! Be individualistic in your choice of accessories as to color, texture, and lines. Then wear them with a flair that's all yours. You can give style to your clothes.

Accessories can make an outfit—yours!

Accessories . . . For Your Coloring

Determine your coloring. Then select accessories to wear near your face from your most becoming colors.

- Do you have pink, yellow or peach skin tones?
- What color are your eyes?
- Do you have light or dark, dull or bright hair?

Since there are so many variations in individual coloring, stand before a mirror in daylight and hold colors next to your face. Which ones do the most for you? Light or dark ones? Bright or dull ones? Warm or cool ones?

For more information on color selection, see "Color in Clothing" Extension Bulletin SB-17. Only a few suggestions are given here.

Scarves on your head or hats of a contrasting color may emphasize the coloring of your hair, skin, and eyes. Avoid wearing those which repeat the color of your own monotonous coloring. If your coloring has decided contrasts, as with fair skin and dark hair and eyes, bright colors and striking contrasts are becoming. Neutrals are, too. Pastels may appear washed out in comparison to your own intense coloring.

Blue and colors with blue in them are cool colors. Colors with a large amount of yellow in them are warm colors. Chartreuse is a warm green, and aqua is a cool green. If you have cool coloring, blue-pink skin and lips, you probably will find that cool colors are becoming to you. If you have a peach or olive skin or a suntan, warm colors will be more becoming to you than cool colors. Warm-colored scarves and hats tend to reflect warmth in a person's skin. Cool colors may make cool-colored eyes appear more important; a blue scarf with blue eyes.

Complementary colors, those which are opposite each other on the color circle, such as red and green, intensify each other. If your hair is blonde, purple probably would make it appear more yellow. If you have a ruddy complexion, a green hat or scarf may make it seem more so.

You can call attention to a feature by repeating its color. If you wish to emphasize your blue eyes, wear blue. Using a small amount of blue in a scarf or jewelry can be more effective than wearing a blue dress. Related colors, those next to each other

on the color circle, such as yellow, yellow-orange, and orange used together make each look less intense.

Choose accessories with becoming texture, too. Shiny jewelry emphasizes skin imperfections when worn near the face or arm. A shiny satin scarf may make dull hair look even duller.

Accessories . . . For Your Body Build

Know yourself. Analyze your size, shape, and proportion.

- Are you tall, thin, short, or stout?
- Are your hips and shoulders about equal in width?
- Are you long or short waisted?
- Are your hands and feet small or large?
- Is your face oval, round, square, or long?

Don't be dismayed if you're not the ideal size or shape; few people are. Instead, recognize your faults and make an effort to camouflage them by clever use of accessories. By the same token, make the most of your assets. Make them count for you!

Look in a full-length mirror to see the effect accessories have on your size and shape. Probable effects you can expect are given below.

Scarves

The drape of scarves with folds and/or puffy ends gives a soft effect that is flattering to many faces and figures. The size and shape of the scarf, the placement of the knot and the ends, and the weight of the fabric in the scarf contribute to the overall effect. Long lines such as from a long scarf, whether tied with a loop knot or a Windsor knot, tend to add height and slimness. Placing the knot at the neckline, rather than lower on the chest, gives a longer line.

Whether the knot on a triangular scarf, cowboy style, is in the center front or back, on the shoulder, or in between the two affects a person's appearance. To shorten and broaden the figure, tie the scarf on the shoulder. To shorten a neck or fill in a neckline, tie the scarf in the back. Tie the scarf in a low "V" in front to lengthen the face and neck.

Sometimes scarves are folded into narrow bands and tied around the neck with skin showing above and below the scarf. This fashion works best on people with either average or long necks.

Scarves may be tied around the waist in place of a belt. Again the position of the knot, the length of the scarf, and the length of one end in relation to the other affects the appearance of the figure. With the knot about halfway between the front and the side, the long end nearer to the center front and the short end on the outside is more slenderizing than having the ends reversed or even.



Scarf at left appears to shorten neck and broaden shoulders. Scarf at right adds apparent height.

Scarves may be tied on the head in various ways. Check for a becoming style. A headscarf in the same or about the same color as the garment adds height. The viewer's eye moves in a long continuous line from toe to head. A crosswise break in this one color outfit tends to shorten and broaden the figure. A contrasting scarf on the head could add height, too, particularly if on a tall person. Because the viewer's attention is drawn to the head, he realizes how far from the floor it really is. In reverse, a contrasting headscarf may make a short person seem shorter.

Hats

In general, a becoming hat should be as broad as the widest part of your face. Nearly everyone can wear a close-fitting hat, one that is so small it scarcely shows from the front. However, it does little to change or improve your appearance. An irregular brim that makes no definite break in the length of the face also can be worn by most women, even those who wear glasses. Irregular lines soften your features.

A hat may change the apparent shape of your face. Most authorities agree that the ideal shaped face is oval. If your face is round, square or triangular, choose a hat style that makes it appear more oval. Hats that form an oval line over the forehead tend to give an oval contour to the face. Drooping brims often make a too-long face look fuller while a turned-up brim carries the eyes upward, making the face appear even longer. Straight brims emphasize a square jaw line. Wearing a hat at an

angle is becoming to both round-and square-faced types.

The style of hat as well as its tilt can affect your apparent height. Straight brims and drooping brims appear to shorten the figure. Off-the-face hats and high crowns tend to make you look taller. Tilted brims also add height.

Trims, too, can increase or decrease the apparent length or width of both face and figure. For instance, adding a decoration on the top of a hat may help a round face to appear oval and may make a short person appear taller.

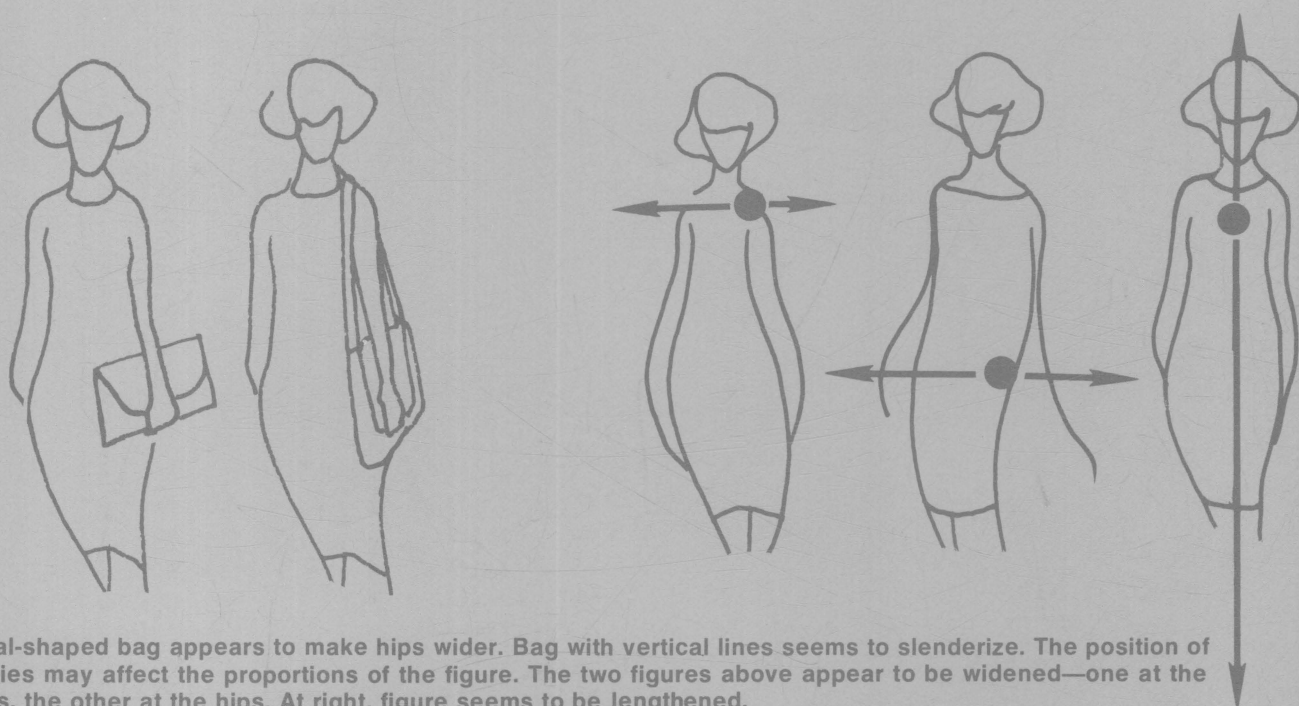
A hat needs to be in proportion to you. Large hats usually are overpowering for the small person, while small hats tend to make a stout person look larger. Dainty materials and trims in small amounts are for the petite or small-featured person. A large hat makes a small face seem smaller.

A hat may call attention to features such as a prominent nose or a receding chin. For example, a drooping brim emphasizes your mouth if the corners turn down. Your hair style affects the shape of the hat you buy, too.

Be sure to consider the profile effect, as well as that from the front and the back when selecting a hat. In fact, wear your costume to the store. Try several hats and consider the effect each has on your face and silhouette—front, back, and sides. Which hat gives you the smarter appearance? Don't buy a hat unless it "does something for you."

Gloves

Straight-line, tailored gloves which match your



Horizontal-shaped bag appears to make hips wider. Bag with vertical lines seems to slenderize. The position of accessories may affect the proportions of the figure. The two figures above appear to be widened—one at the shoulders, the other at the hips. At right, figure seems to be lengthened.

costume call less attention to the size of your hands and breadth of your hips than contrasting or decorative ones. Trims on gloves call attention to hands and hips, too. If you want to wear contrasting gloves even though they are not particularly becoming to you, carefully position your hands as you walk and stand. This may mean keeping your hands near the center of your figure rather than to the outside. A petite person usually looks better in short gloves and a tall person in the longer lengths. However, the occasion, fashion, and sleeve length may alter the case.

Purses

Consider carefully the width, thickness, and length of a purse and how you will carry it. Purses may add an appearance of bulk to the figure. A bulky purse may be unbecoming to both the heavy and the thin person—by *repetition*—making the heavy person seem more heavy and by *contrast*, making the thin person seem even thinner. A shoulder bag may emphasize the hips. Check the effect of the envelope bag on the mid-section of the figure. Does it make your figure appear too short and wide? As in hats, a small figure can be weighted down with too large a purse and large figure emphasized by a small dainty one.

Jewelry

Necklace, beads, jeweled buttons, earrings, rings, and pins can be used to give a vertical or crosswise line to the costume. Pins or flowers worn toward the center and high on the figure give

length; those worn out on the shoulder and below the top of the shoulder tend to add width. By repeating the lines and shape of your face in jewelry, you emphasize those lines. Roundness in jewelry can make the face or figure appear more round. Sharp angles in jewelry will accent the sharp angles of the too-thin face or figure. Even the shape of accessories as small as earrings is important. Pendant earrings tend to lengthen a round face whereas round ones make it seem wider and more round.

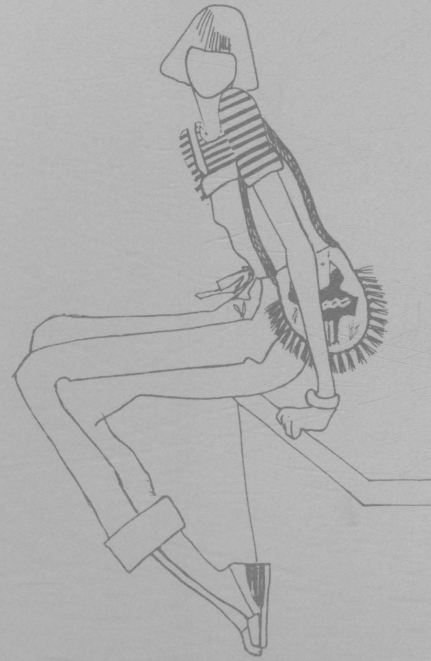
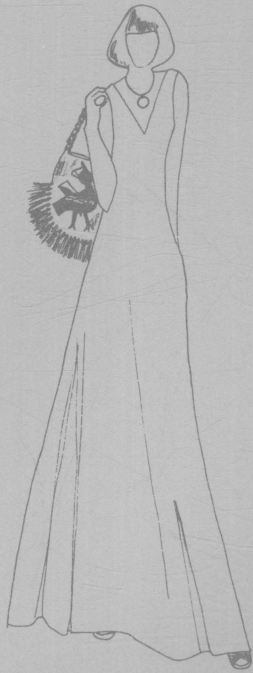
Jewelry should be in proportion to the figure. Bulky pieces appear too heavy for the tiny figure, while small dainty pieces emphasize the bulk of the heavy figure. Wearing many large accessories at a time is for big women. Medium-sized women occasionally can get away with one large accessory. Tall women can successfully wear more jewelry at one time than short women.

Avoid placing jewelry or flowers where they call attention to your bad features—thick waist or full bust. Instead use them to draw attention away from these and toward your good feature; this is usually the face. Choker beads are not becoming to a short, large neck. Instead, a long strand of beads worn in a “V” may make the neck appear longer.

Belts

Horizontal lines are made by belts. Be sure such lines are becoming to you, especially if you are considering choosing contrasting or wide belts.

Contrasting belts usually make your waist appear wider and thicker. Even if your waist is small,



All parts of an outfit should be appropriate for the intended purpose.

beware of wide belts if your hips are large. Your hips may seem to bulge even more. A wide belt may emphasize a large bust, too. Wide belts also shorten your waist; therefore, that may be very becoming to you if you have a long waist. If your waist is short, consider wearing contour belts in which all or part of the belt rests below your waistline.

Shoes and Hose

Light-and bright-colored shoes call attention to your feet. They also make them appear larger. Crosswise lines made by straps, trims, and contrasting colors tend to shorten and widen feet. Lengthwise lines seem to lengthen your feet. If you are heavy, avoid dainty shoes as you will appear more overweight because of the contrast. Also, don't try too hard to conceal a feature. Wearing "flats" all the time may just call attention to a tall woman's height. Shoes and hose the same color as the garment tend to add height.

Accessories . . .

For Your Activities

Ironclad rules regarding dress no longer exist, even for those very special occasions such as weddings. Many options are available today with the range of outfits worn at any one activity including pants, short dresses, and floor length skirts. It is recognized and accepted that different occupations, climates, and lifestyles result in the wearing

of a variety of clothes and accessories to the same type of occasion.

Even though dress is not so restrictive as it sometimes has been in the past, "anything goes" is not quite in vogue either. Carrying a huge satchel-type canvas bag, instead of a small purse, with a sheer formal to an evening affair would be questionable if not startling. The bag would be more appropriate for carrying with a sports outfit—perhaps to the beach or with jeans. Fashion does play some tricks, though. Glitter such as in sequins and rhinestones usually is reserved for evening wear but sometimes has been applied to T-shirts and jeans for casual wear.

Bulky accessories such as gloves and scarves knitted of coarse yarns and rough textures such as in some leather bags and shoes generally are considered for sport and casual wear. Smooth textures are more dressy but may be used in bags and shoes for casual wear, too. The styling and size as well as the texture determine the dressiness of a bag. Avoid mixing decidedly sporty bags with the clothes that you wear for dress-up activities such as banquets, teas, and weddings.

Look at yourself and your complete outfit in a full-length mirror. Does all appear to be related or does an accessory or two seem to be out of place? All items should look as though they were designed to be worn for the same activity. Sometimes an accessory is just out of character; that is, a bag that has sporty nailheads and other trim that keep it from being as dressy as the rest of the outfit. Shoes and bags often have such limitations.

On the other hand, shoes and bags with beads,



Decorative accessories are more difficult to coordinate with garments than are basic accessories. Avoid a cluttered effect; use decorative accessories sparingly.

jewels, or other dainty trim would seem out of place with a heavy tweed suit or with a bulky sweater and flannel pants. An accessory as small as a ring can make or break an outfit. Fragile costume jewelry with stones that resemble expensive jewels usually goes well with dressy outfits. Rings and other jewelry of wood, plastic, and bulky metal are apt to be sporty or casual.

Study store displays, magazines, newspapers, and television shows for the current fashions. Observe well-dressed women participating in the same activities as you. You need not copy them but these sources should help you get a feel regarding the present mode and to select accessories that are appropriate for you and the places you go.

Accessories . . . For Your Wardrobe

To be and feel well-dressed you need at least one complete outfit for each of your different activities. If you need clothes for many quite diverse activities—horseback riding, square dancing, skiing, working, shopping, and attending ball games, church, and club meetings—your wardrobe will of necessity be quite extensive. If your activities are such that you can wear the same kind of clothes and accessories everywhere you go, you won't have to have many outfits.

In either case if your income is limited, you may decide to select basic accessories so they can be

worn with several outfits. Basic bags and shoes would be of solid colors, uncomplicated shapes, and free of decoration. Jewelry would be timeless in its appeal. Basic accessories not only can be worn with garments of both patterned and solid colored fabrics but even might bridge the gap from sporty to dressy wear. If possible, though, you might like to have basic sport shoes and bag and basic dress shoes and bag. If you don't have garments in prints, plaids, checks, and stripes, you might prefer having decorative shoes and bags. If the colors are carefully chosen, the decorative accessories could be worn with a variety of solid-colored garments.

Decide which type of wardrobe you prefer—one with basic accessories or one with basic clothes. Or you could do both in your wardrobe. Limit your dressy garments to solid colors and your sporty accessories to solid colors or vice versa. The secret to a successful wardrobe is to not get caught with having to carry a decorative purse or wear multi-toned shoes with garments that have eye-catching trim or are made from a colorful print.

Still another possibility is to have basic garments and some basic accessories, particularly shoes and bags. Then you can use other accessories such as scarves, belts and jewelry to give a fashion and/or decorative touch. An inexpensive accessory, even a fad, might give you much pleasure. Generally, though, it is desirable to buy accessories of as high quality as you can afford. This is certainly true if you plan to use them very much. On the other hand, if you only go to one formal occasion a year, inexpensive shoes and bag may serve your purpose.

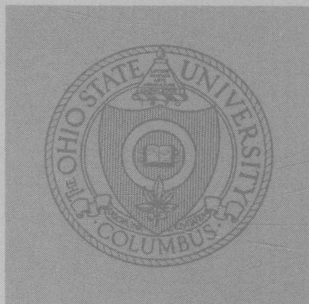
Wardrobe building is a continual process. As you



add new accessories, not only think of their coordination potential but what they will do for you physically and psychologically. Choose accessories that enhance you and your clothes and wear them with the confidence that you look sharp!

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